

# Employees' Retirement Board of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting Minutes Wednesday, December 8, 2010 10:30 a.m.

8th Floor Conference Room, 40 Fountain Street

The Monthly Meeting of the Retirement Board was called to order at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, December 8, 2010 in the 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, 40 Fountain Street, Providence, RI.

#### I. Roll Call of Members

The following members were present at roll call: General Treasurer Frank T. Caprio; Vice Chair William B. Finelli; Gary R. Alger; Daniel L. Beardsley; Frank R. Benell, Jr.; Roger P. Boudreau; Michael R. Boyce; M. Carl Heintzelman; John P. Maguire; John J. Meehan; Thomas A. Mullaney; Louis M. Prata; Susan Knorr Rodriguez and Jean Rondeau.

Also in attendance: Frank J. Karpinski, ERSRI Executive Director; Attorney Michael P. Robinson, Board Counsel.

Recognizing a quorum, Treasurer Caprio called the meeting to order

#### II. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Gary R. Alger and seconded by Frank R. Benell, Jr., it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the draft minutes of the November 10, 2010 meeting of the Employees' Retirement System of Rhode Island Board.

## III. Chairman's Report

Prior to the start of Chairman's report, Vice Chair William B. Finelli, on behalf of the Board, thanked the Treasurer for his four years of leadership and wished him well in the future; he presented him with a token of their appreciation.

Treasurer Caprio thanked the Board for their tireless efforts and the opportunity to serve with them over the last four years. He thanked the Board for their counsel, the respectful manner in which business was conducted and being mindful of everyone's opinions. He said he was proud of the collective efforts of the work done by the Board.

## IV. Executive Director's Report

Director Karpinski noted that Board members were in possession the Pension Application report and the 2011 board meeting calendar.

He then apprised the Board that the *Richard Iverson vs. ERSRI* matter, taken up at the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, has been forwarded to the Hearing Officer to ask that she consider reopening the matter based on the new testimony provided at the meeting.

Director Karpinski apprised the Board that he has been in contact with the Department of Administration (DOA) regarding the *Carol Antonizio and Robin Ruzzo vs. ERSRI* matter which was postponed pending receipt of information from the DOA regarding the status of their employment during the years in question. He told the Board that he was advised that the information would be forthcoming soon.

Director Karpinski told the Board that Memorandum 35, which discusses the membership of local elected officials, was mailed out to over 200 municipal officials. He told the Board this is done annually to make elected officials aware of their rights to participate in the Municipal Employees' Retirement System. He thanked Mr. Beardsley for his help on securing current addresses.

He told the Board that a hardcopy newsletter was recently mailed to retirees and will soon be mailed to active members. In particular, the Director told the Board that there was information in the newsletter concerning the termination of mailing hardcopy advices or "stubs" for direct deposits. He said the last hardcopy advice will be mailed effective with the February 28<sup>th</sup> payment. Director Karpinski told the Board that members who still prefer hardcopy advices may call ERSRI and request they continue receiving them. Another item in the newsletter the Director called attention to was an email account validation process that members would be required to do the next time they signed into their accounts.

Director Karpinski then told the Board that the discussion regarding GRS's actuarial contract scheduled for this month will be re-scheduled for the January 2011 meeting to give the Treasurer-Elect Raimondo an opportunity to provide her input.

Director Karpinski updated the Board on matter which had recently been posted at *GoLocalProv.com* regarding a retiree named George Corrente and post-retirement employment. He said the article seemed to suggest that ERSRI had not adjusted benefits for Mr. Corrente's post-retirement employment for time in which he was considered to be employed as a consultant by the Town of Johnston.

Director Karpinski told the Board that in 2001 the Retirement Board addressed an issue of retirees being re-employed by state agencies and/or municipalities as consultants. After careful review and consideration, he said the Retirement Board formally adopted a prospective policy addressing post-retirement employment practices relating to the use of consultants. In October of 2001, state agencies and municipalities were then given notice of this policy. In short, the policy stated that retirees who were labeled as consultants who were incorporated or who were working for a corporation and performing work in state agencies and/or municipalities as consultants were now subject to the same post-retirement requirements, limitations and prohibitions as an individual retiree engaging in post-retirement employment.

The Director said that a review of Mr. Corrente's file, after being notified in 2001, indicated that Mr. Corrente was in fact employed as a consultant according to Mr. Corrente, his legal counsel and the Town of Johnston. Consistent with the new policy and RIGL §36-10-36, Mr. Corrente's pension was suspended and monthly reports were subsequently filed as required.

Lastly, Director Karpinski apprised the Board that the computer RFP is nearly complete. He said the ERSRI staff has spent significant time with LRWL, Ltd. (ERSRI's systems consultant) reviewing system requirements on a requirement by requirement basis. Director Karpinski told the Board that the reviewed requirements have been a

combination of requirements from the previous RFP, known requirements of the existing system and a database that LRWL has developed over that past decade from all of their public sector clients. The Director told the Board that the current objective is to have the RFP issued sometime in January 2011 and award a contract by the end of the fiscal year in June 2011.

#### V. Administrative Decisions

None this Month.

### VI. Approval of the November Pensions as Presented by ERSRI

On a motion by Michael R. Boyce and seconded by Roger P. Boudreau, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the November pensions as presented.

#### VII. Legal Counsel Report

Attorney Michael Robinson updated the Board with respect to the Michael Ayer matter, he told the Board that he has drafted the complaint and has reached out to the Attorney General's Office to determine their participation in the matter.

Attorney Robinson then updated the Board on the matter of Linda Acciardo. He told the Board that Ms. Acciardo filed a motion in Superior Court to have the matter remanded to the Retirement System for consideration of a workers compensation medical report. Attorney Robinson said the report offered no new information that the Disability Subcommittee and the full Board had not already considered, and that it did not offer material relevant to the conclusions reached by the Board. The System will accordingly be opposing the motion.

## **VIII. Committee Report**

**Disability Subcommittee:** The Disability Subcommittee recommended the following actions on disability applications for approval by the full Board as a result of its meeting on December 3, 2010.

Name	Membership Group	Туре	Action
1. Edward Young	State	Accidental	Deny
2. Robert Cahill, Sr.	State	Accidental	Deny
3. William Kluth	Municipal	Accidental	Postpone
4. Martin Cappelli, Jr.	Municipal	Accidental	Postpone
5. Maria D'Abate	State	Accidental ( <i>New Law</i> )	Postpone

Name	Membership Group	Туре	Action
6. Stephen Limoges, Sr.	State	Accidental (New Law)	Postpone
7. Nathan Trouve	Municipal	Accidental	Approve
8. Aric Gabrielson	Municipal	Accidental	Postpone
9. Catherine Medeiros	Teacher	Ordinary	Approve
10. Conceicao Medeiros	Teacher	Accidental	Postpone
11. Peter Ferraro	Teacher	Accidental	Postpone
12. Krystyn Orsini	State	Accidental	Approve

On a motion by William B. Finelli and seconded by Michael R. Boyce, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the recommendation of the Disability Subcommittee meeting of Friday, December 3, 2010 on item 1.

John J. Meehan recused himself from the vote on number 1

On a motion by William B. Finelli and seconded by Michael R. Boyce, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the recommendation of the Disability Subcommittee meeting of Friday, December 3, 2010 on item 9.

John P. Maguire recused himself from the vote on number 9.

On a motion by William B. Finelli and seconded by Michael R. Boyce, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the recommendation of the Disability Subcommittee meeting of Friday, December 3, 2010 on items 2 through 8, 10, 11 and 12.

#### IX. New Business

None this month

# X. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Board, on a motion by William B. Finelli and seconded by Louis M. Prata the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank J. Karpinski

**Executive Director**